NDC. The NDC is scheduled to meet on 21st December, 2002 for the purpose. After it is approved by the NDC, the Document will be laid in both the Houses of the Parliament.

Reduction in Number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

315. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has decided to reduce the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS);

(b) if so, what are the schemes proposed to be abolished/merged with other such schemes; and

(c) what is the final state of the CSS to be implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has undertaken a review of the existing Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and has subjected them to Zero-Based Budgeting. It is proposed to retain only those schemes in the Tenth Plan that are demonstrably essential. The CSS schemes to be implemented in the Tenth Plan are part of the Tenth Plan Document which will be placed before the National Development Council (NDC) for approval. The NDC is scheduled to meet on 21st December, 2002 for the purpose.

Financial Health of Rajasthan

316. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 4629 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 2002 and state:

(a) what specific proposals have been made by Rajasthan for readjustment of the loan grant ratio in the Central Plan Assistance for restoration of financial health of the State especially in view of the recurrent drought and scarcity that hit the State during the recent years; and

(b) the details of the Medium Term Fiscal Reforms Plan drawn up